

MINUTES: BPAC meeting, April 15, 2014.

Attendees: BPAC members - Dov Hirsch, Rex Hammock, Mary Pat Teague, Peter Westerholm, John Harkey, Edwn Williamson, Tom Grooms, Kim Hawkins

When a quorum was reached, minutes of previous meeting were approved.

Previous Business

Shelby Street Bridge: Chairman Hawkins reported that previous recommendations have been forwarded to the mayor

Advocacy: Chairman Hawkins led a discussion on the need for a previously discussed BPAC presentation that can be used for educational and advocacy purposes in the support of safe street.

Action: Chairman Hawkins, along with Mary-Pat Teague, Rex Hammock will serve on a sub-committee to identify subjects to be covered in such a presentation and to develop a draft by June and a presentation by August. Chairman Hawkins requested also that Metro Police be represented, along with Jason, in presentation plan.

Policy Ride: Participants in the BPAC "policy ride" led by John Harkney praised the event for providing insight and context to policy issues. The consensus suggestion was to encourage such an event annually.

Woodland Street Protected Lane Project: Jason reported that Public Works has decided to shelve the planned protected bicycle lane project for Woodland Street because residents "don't want to give up a turn lane once it has been approved." BPAC member Peter Westerholm and Metro Council member representing District Six, site of the project, reported he was not aware of residents opposing the project due to concerns with turning lanes.

Follow-up Action: As with other issues previously cited, Chairman Hawkins requested Jason to ask the appropriate official from Public Works to attend the next BPAC meeting to clarify the "turning lane" objection, in general and specifically as it related to the Woodland Street project.

New Business

Construction Zone Safety: Chairman Hawkins led a discussion regarding construction permitting related to pedestrian requirements.

Jason said pedestrian detour plans must be approved before permits issued, however, some construction sites have overlapping state/local jurisdictions.

Jason requested to seek clarification regarding construction on 7th Avenue and adherence to regulations, guidelines

ACTION: After Chairman Hawkins and others provided examples where construction sites seem to be following practices not adhering to guidelines that led to similar responses suggesting jurisdiction confusion, Jason was requested to seek attendance to a BPAC meeting by the appropriate Public Works official(s) to clarify (1) Construction on 7th Avenue and adherence to regulations, guidelines (2) General regulations, policies, jurisdiction issues related to pedestrians during construction.

B-Cycle: Year- one update of highlights shared by Keith Rawls, GM.:

Membership up 45% over projections and "checkouts" up 50% year- over- year, despite record cold temperatures. Most used location is Centennial Park.

Cyclovía (Open Street Event):

Laurel Creech made a report and presentation on cities around the U.S. that have successfully launched annual (or more often) events that open up a major street to pedestrians (including runners, inline-skaters, etc.) and bicyclists. Usually on a Saturday morning, the "cyclovías" or "Open Street Events" range from one-mile (Boone, N.C.) to 10 miles (L.A.) and, in some cities, have grown into popular events that draw tens of thousands participants. (In San Antonio, 70,000 participants in most recent one.)

ACTION: A sub-committee was appointed by Chairman Hawkins to discuss options for a Nashville Open Street Even with relevant parties including Walk-Bike Nashville and Public Works to explore interest, needs, requirements, etc. BPAC members on committee: Patrick Harkins, Tom Grooms. Protected Bike Lanes on Woodland Street

Vancouver, British Columbia

Chairman Hawkins reported on a Nashville Chamber of Commerce fact -finding trip to Vancouver, British Columbia and that city's emphasis on bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and the lessons it could provide for Nashville. Vancouver uses the following considerations, with "1" being the highest priority, when considering transportation policy decisions: (1) Walking (2) Biking (3) Mass transit (4) Shared vehicles (5) Individual cars

Other items:

- Upcoming Tennessee Bicycle Summit
- Activities related to Bicycle Month including Ride to Work Day and the Tour de Nash.